

REMARKS

The present amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action dated April 23, 2007, which set a three-month period for response, making this amendment due by July 23, 2007.

Claims 1-9 are pending in this application.

In the Office Action, the disclosure was objected to for various informalities. The drawings were objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a) for not showing every feature of the invention specified in the claims, specifically, the "higher order unit". Claim 7 was objected to for an informality, and claims 1-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 1 and 5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (AAPA) Fig. 8.

The Applicant notes with appreciation the allowance of claims 2-4 and 6-9 if rewritten to overcome the rejections under Section 112, second paragraph, and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Looking first at the objection to the drawings, the claims and specification have been amended to replace "higher order unit" with the more accurate translation "lower component". The Applicant respectfully submits that illustration of the lower component is not necessary for understanding the invention as claimed.

The specification and abstract were amended to address the objections, as were the claims.

Allowable claims 2-4, 6, and 8 were rewritten in independent form.

The Applicant submits, however, that claim 1 also is patentable over the art of record. Claim 1 was amended to more clearly define that a ***limiting line portion*** extends from the point at its side facing away from a longitudinal central plane of the cover band. This change was made to emphasize that “extending from” refers to the portion and NOT to the limiting line. The rejection of claim 1 set forth in the Office Action would only be justified if “extending from” referred to the limiting line, as shown in Fig. 8.

The Applicant therefore respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1 and 5, and allowance of these claims along with the amended, and allowable claims 2-4 and 6-9.

The application in its amended state is believed to be in condition for allowance. Action to this end is courteously solicited. Should the Examiner have any further comments or suggestions, the undersigned would very much welcome a telephone call in order to discuss appropriate claim language that will place the application into condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

/ Michael J. Striker /

Michael J. Striker
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No.: 27233
103 East Neck Road
Huntington, New York 11743
631-549-4700